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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHURCH NEEDS BINDING FORCE OF UNIVERSITIES, SAYS USD ADMINISTRATOR

SAN DIEGO, Calif.--Catholics must look to Catholic universities for guidance for the Church and its people in this period of intellectual turmoil, said Michael C. Newman, of the University of San Diego to the Second Sunday Seminar, Sunday (March 8).

Newman, director of development and public relations, told the group "Now with the windows wide open and thought flying in every direction, the Church is going through a period of turmoil because too many people are saying too many things all at once."

For the stable, serious and lasting deep thought on the problems of the world that can guide the church and its people, Newman said, "We must look, at least in major part, to our Catholic universities."

"We must look to these fountains of knowledge because it was with the universities that Catholic or Christian thought was first put down on paper and crystalized.

Newman noted that the university system was founded a thousand years ago by the Catholic Church and the Catholic Church must "stay in the forefront of the university system to guide and to teach and to lead."

The University of San Diego has not experienced student violence, Newman told the group. However, he explained, though the violence is fostered by those dedicated to disruption, "it is also fostered by the many things in life today which young people find hypocritical--including

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the Catholic Church. Let us be quite honest. There is much hypocrisy in our generation; there is much that gives lip service to honesty, integrity and standards."

Destruction is not the answer, Newman said, as it does not build. "We have to find the secret of building anew; of bringing people together in honesty and true Christian love."

This is why the University of San Diego is vital to the well-being of the new Catholic Church. Newman said, "it has what we now call a 'think tank' of brilliant priests and laymen who can help to crystalize the philosophy and theology to guide us all."

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